

LISTING OF THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) A surgical instrument comprising;

an end effector which executes ~~medial~~ medical treatment;

a support having a proximal end which supports the end effector;

a base member which has distal and proximal ends, and pivotally supports the proximal end of the support on the distal end to enable the end effector and the support to be rotated together with respect to the base member;

an elongate member which has ~~distal and proximal ends, and a proximal end and a distal end on which the base member~~ is located ~~in the distal end of the elongate member~~; and

an extended portion which is disposed in the distal end of the elongate member to be extended with respect to the base member located in the distal end of the elongate member.

2. (Original) The surgical instrument according to claim 1, wherein the extended portion is disposed in the distal end of the elongate member to regulate rotation of the support pivotally supported by the base member.

3. (Currently Amended) The surgical instrument according to claim 2, wherein the extended portion is formed integrally with the distal end of the elongate portion member.

4. (Original) The surgical instrument according to claim 1, wherein the elongate member is a sheath, the sheath and the extended portion are formed integrally with each other, and the sheath and the extended portion are included in an insertion section inserted into a body cavity.

5. (Currently Amended) The surgical instrument according to claim 4, wherein the extended portion has a slope inclined ~~in~~ with respect to an axis of the sheath.

6. (Canceled)

7. (Currently Amended) The surgical instrument according to claim 4 ~~claim 1~~,

wherein the sheath and the extended portion have rigidities to maintain shapes of the sheath and the extended portion when the ~~insertion section~~ elongate member is inserted into the ~~a~~ biomedical tissue of a patient.

8. (Currently Amended) The surgical instrument according to claim 7,

wherein the ~~insertion section~~ elongate member and the ~~treatment section~~ end effector, have conductive areas to supply high-frequency power to the ~~treatment section~~ end effector, and are electrically connected to each other, and

the sheath has an inner tube, and an insulating outer tube which covers a full periphery of an outer peripheral surface of the inner tube.

9. (Original) The surgical instrument according to claim 4,

wherein the sheath is formed in a circular tube shape, and

the extended portion has a slope in which a circular tube integrally extended to the sheath is cut from the sheath obliquely in the axial direction of the sheath.

10. (Original) The surgical instrument according to claim 4,

wherein the sheath is formed in a circular tube shape, and

a section of the extended portion orthogonal to the axis of the sheath has a circular arc shape.

11. (Original) The surgical instrument according to claim 4,

wherein the insertion section and the end effector have conductive areas to supply high-frequency power through the insertion section to the end effector, and are electrically connected to each other, and

the sheath and an outer peripheral surface of the extended portion are covered with an insulating member.

12. (Original) The surgical instrument according to claim 4, further comprising;

an operation section which rotates the end effector and the support pivotally supported by the base member with respect to the base member,

wherein the insertion section has first and second driving members which are arranged side by side, and which have distal and proximal ends, and is connected to the proximal ends of the first and second driving members so that the first driving member is driven to operate the end effector, and the second driving member is driven to rotate the support.

13. (Original) The surgical instrument according to claim 12,

wherein the end effector is a pair of jaws to be relatively opened/closed,

at least one of the pair of jaws is supported by the support, and

the support is connected to the distal end of the second driving member to rotate in one plane in an axis of the second driving member.

14. (Original) The surgical instrument according to claim 13, further comprising:

a sliding member which is supported by at least one of the jaws, and slid in an axial direction of the support to open/close the jaws, and

a connection member which has distal and proximal ends, the sliding member being connected to the distal end of the connection member to open/close the jaws, and the distal end of the first driving member being connected to the proximal end of the connection member.

15. (Currently Amended) The surgical instrument according to claim 12 ~~claim 1~~,

wherein the first driving member has conductive areas to supply high-frequency power to the end effector, and the first driving member and the end effector are electrically connected to each other, and

the sheath and ~~the~~ an outer peripheral surface of the extended portion are covered with an insulating member.

16. (Original) The surgical instrument according to claim 15, wherein the proximal end of the first driving member has insulation.

17. (Currently Amended) The surgical instrument according to claim 4, ~~wherein the sheath has an attaching/detaching mechanism disposed in the proximal end of the insertion section to be switched between a position of being fixed to cover an outer periphery of the insertion section and a position of being shifted from the outer periphery of the insertion section~~ further comprising an attaching/detaching mechanism which enables the sheath to be attached/detached to/from the insertion section.

18. (Canceled)

19. (Original) The surgical instrument according to claim 1, further comprising:

an end effector operation section which is disposed in the proximal end of the elongate member to operate the end effector; and

a rotation operation section which is disposed in the proximal end of the elongate member to rotate the support pivotally supported by the base member.

20. (Original) The surgical instrument according to claim 19, further comprising:

a first transmitting member which has distal and proximal ends, the proximal end being dynamically connected to the end effector operation section, and the distal end being dynamically connected to the end effector; and

a second transmitting member which has distal and proximal ends, the proximal end being dynamically connected to the rotation operation section, and the distal end being dynamically connected to the support.

21. (Original) The surgical instrument according to claim 20,

wherein the first transmitting member has at least a first part disposed in the elongate member and a second part disposed in the support, the first and second parts being dynamically connected.

22. (Original) The surgical instrument according to claim 20,

wherein the elongate member is a sheath, and the first and second transmitting members are inserted through the sheath.

23. (Original) The surgical instrument according to claim 1,

wherein the support comprises a pivot, and the end effector is supported by the pivot.

24. (Currently Amended) The surgical instrument according to claim 23 ~~claim 1~~,

wherein the end effector is constituted of a pair of jaws which are supported by the pivot, and relatively rotated by using the pivot as a rotary axis.

25. (Original) The surgical instrument according to claim 24, further comprising:

an opening/closing section which is disposed in the proximal end of the elongate member to open/close the pair of jaws relatively; and

a rotation operation section which is disposed in the proximal end of the elongate member to rotate the support pivotally supported by the base member.

26. (Original) The surgical instrument according to claim 25, further comprising:

a first transmitting member which has distal and proximal ends, the proximal end being dynamically connected to the opening/closing section, and the distal end being dynamically connected to the jaws; and

a second transmitting member which has distal and proximal ends, the proximal end being dynamically connected to the rotation operation section, and the distal end being dynamically connected to the support.

27. (Original) The surgical instrument according to claim 26,

wherein the first transmitting member has at least a first part disposed in the elongate member and a second part disposed in the support, the first and second parts being dynamically connected.

28. (Original) The surgical instrument according to claim 26,

wherein the elongate member is a sheath, and the first and second transmitting members are inserted through the sheath.

29. (Currently Amended) A surgical instrument comprising:

an insertion section which has distal and proximal ends, and a sheath, the sheath including a notch which is partially notched on the [[a]] distal end;

a treatment section connected to the distal end of the insertion section to treat a biomedical tissue; and

an operation section operated by an operator, the operation section being connected to the proximal end of the insertion section and operated by the operator to generate an operation force, which is transmitted through the insertion section to the treatment section.

30. (Original) The surgical instrument according to claim 29,

wherein the treatment section has a rotation mechanism disposed to rotate the treatment section within a predetermined range with respect to the insertion section, and the notch of the sheath is disposed in the rotational range of the treatment section.

31. (Original) The surgical instrument according to claim 30,

wherein the insertion section and the treatment section have conductive areas to supply high-frequency power to the treatment section, and are electrically connected to each other, and

the sheath has an inner tube, and an insulating outer tube which covers a full periphery of an outer peripheral surface of the inner tube.

32. (Original) A surgical instrument comprising:

an insertion section which has distal and proximal ends;

a treatment section connected to the distal ends of the insertion section to treat a biomedical tissue;

an operation section operated by an operator, the operation section being connected to the proximal end of the insertion section and operated by the operator to generate an operation force, which is transmitted through the insertion section to the treatment section; and

a sheath which covers an outer periphery of the insertion section, and a distal end, the distal end of the sheath having an area extended along an axis of the sheath more than other portions.